

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

MASS.  
DOCS.  
COLL.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

COMMISSIONERS ON UNIFORM  
STATE LAWS

FOR THE

Year ending November 30, 1931



# THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

## TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONERS ON UNIFORM STATE LAWS.

*To His Excellency the Governor and the Honorable Council of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts:—*

The Commissioners on Uniform State Laws during the year ending November 30, 1931, have been Hollis R. Bailey, Chairman and Secretary, Professor Joseph H. Beale, Joseph F. O'Connell and Professor James M. Landis. Professor James M. Landis was appointed to take the place of Professor James H. Beale, who did not feel able to continue the work and accordingly resigned.

A meeting of the Board was held December 1, 1931, and Hollis R. Bailey was again elected Chairman and Secretary.

### UNIFORM LAWS RECOMMENDED

Last year the Commissioners recommended for enactment in Massachusetts two Uniform Laws, viz., the Uniform Criminal Extradition Act and the Uniform Divorce Jurisdiction Act. The Uniform Criminal Extradition Act, having been referred to the Judicial Council, was considered by said Council and several amendments were suggested. The Commissioners on Uniform State Laws were heard by the Judiciary Committee in support of the Act as presented by them.

The Uniform Divorce Jurisdiction Act was referred to the Committee on Legal Affairs. The Commissioners appeared and were heard in support of the Act. The Legislature rejected both said Acts.

### ANNUAL MEETING OF NATIONAL CONFERENCE

The forty-first annual meeting of the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws was held in Atlantic City, New Jersey, in September 1931. The meeting began September 8th and continued until September 14th. There was a large attendance and a considerable number of proposed uniform laws were considered and several were finally approved and recommended for adoption. The President, the Hon. William M. Hargest, presided. Mr. Hargest was re-elected as President. John H. Voorhees, Esq., of South Dakota, was re-elected as Secretary, and Bruce W. Sanborn, Esq., of Minnesota, was re-elected as Treasurer.

Joseph F. O'Connell, Esq., one of your Commissioners, was elected a member of the Executive Committee of the National Conference. He also was appointed Chairman of the Committee of the Fire Arms Act.

Hollis R. Bailey, Esq., was appointed a member of the Uniform Social Welfare Act Section and Chairman of the Committee on Uniform Marriage and Divorce Acts.

Professor James M. Landis was appointed a member of the Committee on Compacts and Agreements between States; a member of the Committee on Legislative Drafting; also a member of the Committee on Uniform Criminal Statistics.

The Conference devoted considerable time to further consideration of the Uniform Mechanics Lien Act and approved the same tentatively, which means that it will be further considered next year.

The draft of the Uniform Principal and Income Act, the draft of the Uniform Trust Receipts Act, the draft of the Uniform Automobile Liability Security Act and the draft of a Uniform Act to Secure Attendance of Non-resident Witnesses in Criminal cases were all further considered at length.

## ACTS RECOMMENDED

The Commissioners on Massachusetts are not prepared this year to recommend any Acts for adoption by the Legislature.

The Uniform Criminal Extradition Act, which was recommended last year but was not enacted, the Commissioners consider a very desirable law and hope that sometime it may be adopted in Massachusetts.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Amount of Appropriation .....	\$750.00
<i>Expenses</i>	
Paid Bruce W. Sanborn, Treasurer of National Conference, contribution toward expenses .....	\$100.00
Paid Printing annual report .....	13.00
Faid Joseph F. O'Connell for traveling and other expenses, \$82.61 and \$142.88 .....	225.49
Paid Hollis R. Bailey, for traveling and other expenses .....	100.27
Paid James M. Landis, for traveling and other expenses .....	94.98
	<u>\$533.74</u>
Unexpended Balance .....	\$216.26

HOLLIS R. BAILEY, *Chairman*  
 JOSEPH F. O'CONNELL  
 JAMES M. LANDIS  
*Commissioners*